



Subject:	Participation in Impact Advisory Group Knowledge Exchange Visit
Date:	14 November 2017
Reporting Officer:	Dermot O'Kane ext. 2293
Contact Officer:	Dermot O'Kane

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this paper is to inform members of an invitation which has been received from Queens's University Belfast and Belfast Healthy Cities as part of the Healthy Urban Living and Ageing in Place Project (HULAP) for Dermot O'Kane or a Belfast City Council Representative to join a research delegation to Curitiba, Brazil.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Note the project and the proposed study visit and the invitation for Dermot O'Kane or a Belfast City Council representative to join the delegation.
3.0	Main report
3.1	As you will be aware, a key role for Queen's University Belfast is to support knowledge exchange and transfer between the academic and public sector. Capacity building and sharing learning is also a key role for Belfast Healthy Cities within the city.
3.2	Queen's and Healthy Cities have written to inform the Council that they are organising a study trip to Curitiba in Brazil, as part of the Healthy Urban Living and Ageing in Place (HULAP) study, funded partly by the UK's Economic and Social Research Council. A key aim of the research is to identify how policy makers use academic research, and how knowledge transfer can be improved to support policy and decision-making.
3.3	For this purpose, an Impact Advisory Group consisting of key agencies in Belfast and Northern Ireland with a remit for the built environment and ageing has been established. The Brazil visit has been designed for this group, to share learning and to create contacts

<p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>with an equivalent group in Brazil. The Belfast City Council representative on the Impact Advisory Group is Dermot O'Kane, Local Development Plan Manager with the Planning and Place department.</p> <p>The HULAP study is undertaken in partnership with Pontiff Catholic University of Parana, which is based in Curitiba. It aims to develop understanding of the types of built environment solutions that support physical activity and ageing in place among older adults, and is designed to support sharing of learning between Belfast and Brazil. The visit will focus on innovative planning practice in Curitiba, which was one of the first cities in the world to implement a Bus Rapid Transit system, and will explore planning approaches overall as well as solutions relevant to age friendly environments. This may offer learning and insights that can support the Local Development Plan, which will have a crucial influence on restructuring the physical fabric of the city. The LDP will also have a critical role in helping achieve some of the core outcomes of the HU LAP project.</p> <p>The visit will take place in December 2017 and Queen's University Belfast will cover all costs, including travel insurance. Professor Geraint Ellis of the School of the Natural and Built Environment, who is Principal Investigator within the HULAP study, will lead the delegation. The group has invited Dermot or a Belfast City Council representative, as appropriate to join the delegation.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Finance and Resource Implications</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Queen's University Belfast will cover all costs, including travel insurance.</p>
<p>4.2</p>	<p>This project will see a principal officer from the Council being away from the office for three working days and the dates although to be confirmed are likely to be over a weekend.</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p>Equality or Good Relations Implications</p>
<p>5.1</p>	<p>The ongoing work has been developed in line with the Council's Equality and Goods relations framework and policies</p>

Appendix 1

Copy of Invite